



DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY
COMMANDING OFFICER
USS WHITE PLAINS (AFS 4)
FPO San Francisco 96683

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From: Commanding Officer, USS WHITE PLAINS (AFS 4)
To: Chief of Naval Operations

Subj: Annual Command History 1983

Ref: (a) OPNAVINST 5750.12C

Encl: (1) USS WHITE PLAINS (AFS 4) Command History 1983

1. Enclosure (1) is provided as required by reference (a).


K. L. CARLSEN

COMMAND HISTORY
USS WHITE PLAINS (AFS 4)

USS WHITE PLAINS (AFS 4), known throughout the Western Pacific as the "ORIENT EXPRESS," concluded 1982 operations with a port visit to Pattaya Beach, Thailand in January 1983.

After returning to Yokosuka on 12 February 1983, she made preparations to get underway for Inchon, Korea in March. Enroute to Inchon, WHITE PLAINS participated in OPERATION TEAM SPIRIT, providing vertical replenishment support. Arriving in Inchon on 23 March, she welcomed Capt. K. L. CARLSEN, who reported as relief for Capt. D. L. KERR. Departing Inchon for Yokosuka on 28 March, the change-of-command ceremony took place 1 April 1983 as WHITE PLAINS made her approach to Yokosuka.

WHITE PLAINS conducted several operations in the local operating area, including successful Operational Propulsion Plant Recertification Examination conducted from 11 to 13 May. WHITE PLAINS then made preparations to get underway for the Indian Ocean and departed Yokosuka on May 16 for Subic Bay.

Arriving in Subic Bay on 23 May, WHITE PLAINS participated in a Command Inspection, and an annual Maintenance Material Management Inspection. Cited for her outstanding performance record, WHITE PLAINS received an overall 95.8% completion rate of scheduled planned maintenance.

WHITE PLAINS departed Subic Bay on 29 May for the Indian Ocean, arriving in Diego Garcia on 9 June. Indian Ocean operations commenced with an underway replenishment of USS SIDES on 13 June. WHITE PLAINS spent a total of 132 days supporting

USS CARL VINSON and Battle Group Charlie during the deployment. During this time 29,567 nautical miles were traveled and 5,160,000 pounds of provisions delivered. WHITE PLAINS conducted her largest replenishment operation ever, delivering 1,526 pallets of stores to USS CARL VINSON and conducted her largest on-load of supplies in Diego Garcia, loading 1,610 pallets in 48 hours. On July 1, she visited Fremantle, Australia for seven days, prior to returning to Diego Garcia on 17 July.

WHITE PLAINS concluded Indian Ocean Operations on 23 August and arrived at Phuket, Thailand on 2 September for a five-day port visit. On 12 September, she conducted an off-load of excess stores at Subic Bay, RP and departed for Yokosuka, to arrive on 24 September. Shortly thereafter, she departed for a Hong Kong, B.C.C. port visit, arriving on 16 October. An approaching storm forced WHITE PLAINS to make an early departure to the relative safety of the open sea on 23 October. While transiting eastward from Hong Kong, WHITE PLAINS was directed by COMSEVENTHFLT to assist M/V LICA LU, which had run aground on the treacherous reefs surrounding Pratas Island. Rendering assistance proved difficult in high winds and heavy seas, but the ensuing rescue operations were conducted with the support of the embarked HC-3 Det 106 Helicopter Support Squadron. The rescue operations lasted for two hours and all of the 26 Taiwanese crewmen were airlifted to safety aboard WHITE PLAINS. Arriving in Subic Bay 28 October, the Taiwanese sailors were disembarked from the ship to be repatriated to their homeland.

After conducting operations in Subic operating areas, WHITE PLAINS returned to Subic Bay on 8 November. She again returned to the OPAREA to conduct an Astern Refueling exercise with USNS COLUMBIA. Following the exercise, WHITE PLAINS returned to Subic Bay, RP and was presented with the Battle "E" and her sixth consecutive Blue "R" retention award by COMNAVSURFGRU WESTPAC, Como. Paul D. BUTCHER.

Returning to Yokosuka on 23 November, WHITE PLAINS celebrated her 15th anniversary with a Dependents' Cruise off the coast of Yokosuka. Shortly thereafter, she departed for Hong Kong to participate in the annual Hong Kong Search and Rescue exercise in conjunction with the Royal Navy and Hong Kong Auxiliary Air Force. The ship departed Hong Kong on 10 December and arrived in Sasebo, Japan on 13 December. On her return trip to Yokosuka, she conducted a Tiger Cruise, with 12 young men aged eight and older. Arriving in Yokosuka on 17 December, WHITE PLAINS made preparations for her ensuing Selected Restricted Availability (SRA).

COMMAND HISTORY
CHRONOLOGICAL OUTLINE OF EVENTS

JANUARY 23, 1983	WHITE PLAINS concludes Indian Ocean operations with a visit to Pattaya Beach, Thailand.
FEBRUARY 12, 1983	WHITE PLAINS returns to Yokosuka, Japan.
MARCH 6, 1983	WHITE PLAINS departs for Inchon, Korea; enroute to Inchon participates in OPERATION TEAM SPIRIT.
MARCH 25, 1983	PCO Capt. K. L. CARLSEN arrives as relief for Capt. D. L. KERR.
APRIL 1, 1983	Change-of-Command ceremony of the coast of Yokosuka, Japan.
MAY 16, 1983	WHITE PLAINS departs Yokosuka for Subic Bay, RP and commencement of Indian Ocean operations.
MAY 23, 1983	Command Inspection, CTF 73. Maintenance Material Management Inspection. WHITE PLAINS receives overall completion rate of 95.8%.
MAY 29, 1983	Depart Subic Bay, RP for Diego Garcia, arrive June 9, 1983.
JUNE 13, 1983	WHITE PLAINS conducts first vertical replenishment of her deployment to the Indian Ocean. Cruise lasts 132 days in support of USS CARL VINSON (CVN 70) and Battle Group Charlie. WHITE PLAINS delivers 5,160,000 pounds of provisions, conducts largest connected replenishment in her 15-year history; 1,526 pallets to USS CARL VINSON. Conducts largest on-load at Diego Garcia, 1,610 pallets in 48-hours.
JULY 1, 1983	Visits Fremantle, Australia for Independence Day.
JULY 17, 1983	Returns to Diego Garcia.
AUGUST 23, 1983	Departs Indian Ocean to arrive Phuket, Thailand, 2 September.
SEPTEMBER 12, 1983	Arrives Subic Bay, RP to conduct off-load.
SEPTEMBER 24, 1983	Arrives Yokosuka, Japan.
OCTOBER 16, 1983	Arrives Hong Kong, B.C.C.
OCTOBER 23, 1983	Approaching storm forces early departure from Hong Kong, WHITE PLAINS is directed by COMSEVENTHFLT to render assistance to M/V LICA LU, which has run aground on the reefs surrounding Pratas Island. Taiwanese merchantmen are airlifted to safety aboard WHITE PLAINS by crewmen from embarked HC-3 Det 106 Helicopter Support Squadron.
OCTOBER 28, 1983	Arrive Subic Bay, merchantmen are disembarked.
NOVEMBER 8, 1983	WHITE PLAINS returns to Subic Bay after conducting local operations.
NOVEMBER 12, 1983	WHITE PLAINS conducts first-ever Astern Refueling with USNS COLUMBIA.

NOVEMBER 14, 1983 COMNAVSURFGRU WESTPAC presents WHITE PLAINS with Battle "E" and sixth consecutive Blue "R" retention award.

NOVEMBER 23, 1983 WHITE PLAINS celebrates her 15th anniversary with a Dependents' Cruise off the coast of Yokosuka.

DECEMBER 5, 1983 Arrive in Hong Kong to participate in Search and Rescue operations with Royal Navy.

DECEMBER 13, 1983 Arrive Sasebo, Japan. Tigers arrive for Tiger Cruise to Yokosuka.

DECEMBER 17, 1983 WHITE PLAINS arrives in Yokosuka to begin preparations for upcoming Selected Restricted Availability.

YEAR-END STATISTICS

Days Underway	192
Percent Underway	53%
Miles Steamed (engine miles)	63,304
Number of Replenishments	108
Connected Replenishments	29
Vertical Replenishments	68
Combined VERTREP/CONREP	11
In Port CONREPS	10
Passengers Transferred	46
Passengers transferred by Manila Highline	9
Tonnage Delivered (tons)	1,972
Largest Single Ship CONREP for USS WHITE PLAINS (pallets)	1,526
Largest Diego Garcia On-Load for USS WHITE PLAINS (pallets/48 hours)	1,610
<u>Fuel Consumption</u>	
Total Underway (gallons)	3,835,478
Not Underway (gallons)	732,488
Transfers (gallons)	508,351
Total Fuel Consumption (gallons)	4,567,966